Continuation of Price Reimbursement Scheme for Engineering Goods Exporters

3514. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the international price reimbursement scheme for exporters of engineering goods is to be continued;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry of Finance was not in favour of continuation of the scheme; and

(c) if so, on what grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) has been discontinued for exports from 1st April, 1994.

(b) and (c) The Government decided to discontinue IPRS as no viable means of funding the scheme was available.

Trade Delegations Sponsored by Ministry of Commerce

3515. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry sponsors trade delegations for the promotion to trade in addition to the trade delegations sponsored by different Export Promotion Councils;

(b) if so, how many such delegations were sponsored by his Ministry and the countries they have visited during 1993-94;

(c) what are the criteria for selecting members for such delegations; and

(d) the names of the members of such delegations?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

Ministry of Commerce sponsors trade delegations for promotion of trade in addition to the trade delegations sponsored by different Export Promotion Councils, whenever such a need is felt by the Ministry. Members of the delegtions are selected keeping in view their export performances and issues to be discussed during the visit of the delegation on going export/import project of Indian Companies in these countries etc. The details of members of such delegations and the countries they have visited are as follows:

Members of Delegation	Countries
1. Shri B.P. Misra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce led a delegation comprising representative of Ministry of External Affairs, Deptt. of Economic Affairs and Reserve Bank of India.	The Baltic States (Latvia, Lithuvania, Estonia and Poland).
2. Shri B.P. Misra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce in an Inter-Ministerial Delegation led by Department of Economic Affairs.	Moscow.
3. Shri Kamaluddin Ahmed, Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce, Shri A.K. Goswami, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Shri H.P. Barooah, Chairman, ITA, Shri Kirti Patel, Managing Director, M/s. Manibhai & Co., Shri Abhijit Majumdar, General Manager, (Tea Export), TATA Tea, Shri Pravin Bhansali, Managing Director, M/s. Shantilal & Bhansali, Shri Deepak Atal, Director, M/s. Duncan Agro, Shri Karan Paul, Director, Assam Frontier, Mr. K. Abedullah, Executive Director (Tea), M/s. Harrison Malayalam, Mr. Mumtaz Ahmed, McLeod Russel, Mr. Ajit Thomas, President UPASI.	U.K., France Polland and Germany.
4. Shri Kamaluddin Ahmed, Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce led a delegation consisting of Shri G.P. Rao, the then Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Shri Raghav Chandra, Deputy	Qater and UAE.